

From: Hubbard, Joseph
Sent: Friday, August 15, 2014 9:32 AM
Subject: Daily News Digest, Friday, Aug. 15
Attachments: Daily News Digest 08152014.pdf

1 – EPA extends comment period for proposed refinery regulations, Oil and Gas Journal, 8/14/2014

<http://www.ogj.com/articles/2014/08/epa-extends-comment-period-for-proposed-refinery-regulations.html>

The US Environmental Protection Agency has extended the public comment period by 60 days for its proposed rule that would force petroleum refiners to implement additional controls on toxic air emissions from their refineries (OGJ Online, May 15, 2014). The public comment period for the proposed “Petroleum Refinery Sector Risk and Technology Review and New Source Performance Standards” has been extended to Oct. 28 from an original deadline of Aug. 29, according to a posting on EPA’s web site.

2 - Report: Frackers Illegally Injected Diesel Into Wells, 8/14/14

<http://www.texasobserver.org/report-fracking-companies-blew-thousands-gallons-diesel-underground-without-permits/>

Energy companies have been injecting diesel underground during fracking operations—without permits to do so—in a dozen states including Texas, according to a new report from the nonprofit Environmental Integrity Project. The report, released Wednesday, found that between February 2010 and July 2014, nearly 13,000 gallons of diesel were injected underground in Texas alone.

3 – Fracking Site Operator Faces Contempt Complaint After Acid Spill, StateImpact, 8/14/14

<http://stateimpact.npr.org/oklahoma/2014/08/14/fracking-site-operator-faces-contempt-complaint-after-acid-spill/>

Oklahoma’s oil and gas regulator filed a contempt complaint this week against the company overseeing a hydraulic fracturing operation in an oil field where 20,000 gallons of hydrochloric acid spilled. The spill could be the state’s largest related to fracking, says Corporation Commission spokesman Matt Skinner.

4 – Texas greenhouse gas workshop may be 'quite a show', EE News, 8/15/2014

<http://www.eenews.net/energywire/2014/08/15/stories/1060004531>

Texas leaders, often suspicious of U.S. EPA, haven't been shy in criticizing the agency's proposal to curb carbon dioxide emissions at existing power plants. Today, the discussion moves to a formal setting in the state capital.

5 – Entrepreneur Week widens its roster of supporting organizations with changes to the Water Challenge, Times Picayune, 8/14/14

http://www.nola.com/business/index.ssf/2014/08/entrepreneur_week_is_widening.html#incart_river

The announcement that the Propeller social entrepreneurship incubator will run the annual Water Challenge business pitch contest for environmental startups is part of a widening of the organizations that produce events culminating during New Orleans Entrepreneur Week in March. The Idea Village, which runs the business festival, said on Thursday (Aug. 14) that more such partnerships are coming.

6 – Gulf Coast Restoration Funds for Five States Mapped Out in Interim Final Treasury Rule, BNA, 8/14/14

http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=51546454&vname=denotallissues&jd=a0f4q2d9r3&split=0

Restoration funding for Gulf Coast communities affected by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill is outlined in an interim final rule announced Aug. 13 by the Treasury Department. The rule (RIN 1505-AC44), scheduled for

publication Aug. 15 in the Federal Register, describes grant programs for Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas that were established by the Resources and Ecosystem Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States (RESTORE) Act.

7 – Will it be extinction or 'translocation' as impacts of climate change increase?, EE News 8/15/2014

<http://www.eenews.net/climatewire/2014/08/15/stories/1060004459>

Climate change is altering the way some scientists are trying to save endangered plant and animal species from extinction. For nearly 100 years, conservationists have focused preservation efforts on maintaining species' historical ranges and reintroducing captive-bred species to boost dwindling populations.

8 – Researchers find way to track invisible, underwater oil, Times-Picayune, 8/14/14

http://www.nola.com/business/index.ssf/2014/08/researchers_find_way_to_track.html#incart_river

Researchers have discovered a new way to track the presence of oil in water even after visible slicks have vanished, a tool that could help give scientists a better idea of how oil spills impact the environment.

9 – EPA Faces Competing Calls For Revisions To Radiation Protection Rules, Inside EPA, 8/14/2014

<http://insideepa.com/201408142479341/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/epa-faces-competing-calls-for-revisions-to-radiation-protection-rules/menu-id-95.html>

EPA is facing competing calls for revisions to its decades-old health and environmental protections for limiting exposure to radiation from commercial nuclear waste with environmentalists calling for strengthened protections through a risk-based standard while the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and industry are pushing EPA to retain a dose-based standard.

10 – Railroad Commission may be more serious about quakes, Star-Telegram, 8/14/2014

<http://www.star-telegram.com/2014/08/14/6044072/railroad-commission-may-be-more.html?rh=1>

After months of disappointing decisions — or mostly indecision — in response to a rash of seismic rumblings in North Texas that some studies have linked to hydraulic fracturing, the Texas Railroad Commission may be turning over a new leaf.

11 – LCRA dispatches employee to Wichita Falls to examine evaporation technology, Statesman, 8/14/2014

<http://www.statesman.com/weblogs/salsa-verde/2014/aug/14/lcra-dispatches-employee-wichita-falls-examine-eva/>

A product that promises to tamp down evaporation from waterways has won some interest from Central Texas water officials. Kyle Jensen, the Texas distributor of WaterSavr, a biodegradable palm oil-and-lime-based product, told me that he and his partner, Tom Harrison, have met with officials from Austin Water Utility and the Lower Colorado River Authority about the product.